

The SOUTHEAST NEWS

OF, BY AND FOR CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CHURCHES

VOLUME 4 - NUMBER 11

AUGUST, 1956



CHAPEL CHOIR LED BY
REV. JOHN CRUTCHER



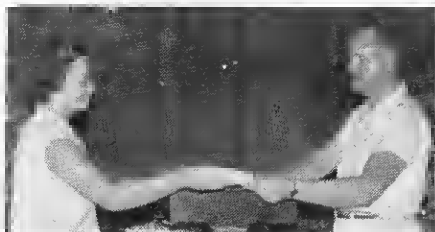
FOLK DANCING LED BY
MILLARD FULLER



Alabama Young People's Conference at Southern Union
College—51 Young People and 10 Adult Leaders



STUNT NIGHT:
"PARK BENCH EPISODE"



JEAN VINCENT RECEIVING 5-YEAR
CERTIFICATE FROM REV. THOMAS
SHREVE



TRADITIONAL:
"EVENING SERENADE"

SUMMER CONFERENCE ISSUE

Ground - Breaking Services at Southern Union College

On the afternoon of July 22, ground-breaking services for the new Girls' Dormitory were held at Southern Union College, Wadley, Ala.

The Rev. Joe A. French of Lanett, chairman of the Board of Trustees, gave the main address, making a plea for loyalty and financial support from the churches.

Afterwards, a processional to the site was led by President Emeritus, Dr. F. P. Ensminger, and Dean A. R. Van Cleave, with the Trustees and Convention, State and Association officers.

Those breaking ground were Dr. F. P. Ensminger; V. L. Carter for the Trustees; Dr. A. R. Van Cleave for the Faculty; Odell Yancey for the Convention; Rev. Annie R. Campbell for the young people; W. F. Gordon for the SEC laymen; Mrs. W. F. Gordon for the Georgia women; Mrs. A. D. Harry for the Alabama women; Albert Van Cleave for the Pilgrim Fellowship; Rev. A. C. Nelson, Rev. John D. Dollar, Paul Beaird, and James Dollar for the East Association. Prof. W. C. Edge, past president, gave the closing prayer and benediction.

The Girls' Dormitory will cost about \$55,000 when completed. The portion to be completed immediately will cost about \$40,000, and will contain 17 bedrooms, library, lounge and house-mother's apartment.

Dr. Fred P. Ensminger, President Emeritus, urges churches and individuals to donate one thousandth of the cost of the dormitory, or \$40. Donations



The Processional, led by Dean A. R. Van Cleave and Dr. Fred P. Ensminger. Second row: The Rev. Joe A. French and Professor Carl Landes



SEC Moderator Odell Yancey of Langdale, Alabama, representing the Convention



Mrs. A. D. Harry, president of the Alabama - NW Florida Women's Fellowship, with Professor Carl Landes, Dr. Ensminger, V. L. Carter (trustee), H. Paul Beaird, and Rev. A. C. Nelson in background



Albert Van Cleave, representing the Pilgrim Fellowship of the SEC

are deductible from your income tax, and checks should be mailed to Southern Union College, Wadley, Ala.

The Alabama-NW Florida Women's Fellowship has initiated a Convention-wide observance in the churches of Southern Union Day on November 4,

Fall Association And Conference Meetings

During the meeting of the Association and Conference Moderators with Supt. Butterfield in Atlanta on July 20, a change was made in the schedule. Please note the dates and places as given below for the final schedule:

Sept. 29-30, Kentucky - Tennessee Conference at Soddy First Church; Oct. 1-2, Central Alabama Association at Eclectic Watson Chapel Church; Oct. 3-4, Georgia-South Carolina Conference at Ambrose Christian Church; Oct. 6-7, North Alabama Association at Haleyville Union Grove Church; Oct. 12-13, South Alabama-NW Florida Association at Andalusia First Church; Oct. 17-18, East Alabama Association Oct. 17 at Phenix City United Church and Oct. 18 at Roanoke Rock Stand Church.

Plans were made to allow time on each program to the four standing committees of the Southeast Convention: Christian Education and Youth Work; Ministry and Churches; Evangelism, Stewardship and Missionary Education; and Survey and Church Aid. A representative of each committee will give a general idea of the plans and program for the coming year. It is hoped that each association and conference will elect a chairman for each of the four committees. This chairman will automatically be a member of the corresponding SEC committee and receive an invitation to all meetings.

Dr. Fred S. Buschmeyer, Associate Minister and Secretary of the General Council, will be the featured speaker at the meetings Sept. 30 through Oct. 6. Dr. Buschmeyer is well known in this area, having been the keynote speaker at the 1955 annual meeting in Atlanta, and the guest lecturer at the Ministers' Convocation in Wadley, Ala., in May of 1954.

In addition, the officers of each association and conference are preparing an interesting, informative and inspirational program for the fall meetings, and these will be going out to church clerks and ministers soon.

Congregations are urged to elect their delegates at an early date and make plans to attend these important sessions.

1956. Information on this coming event will be sent to ministers and church clerks in the next few months.

Highlights Of The General Council Meeting

One of the interesting features of the fall Conference and Association meetings of the Southeast Convention will be reports from the delegates who attended the historic 13th biennial meeting of the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches in Omaha, Nebraska, June 20-27.

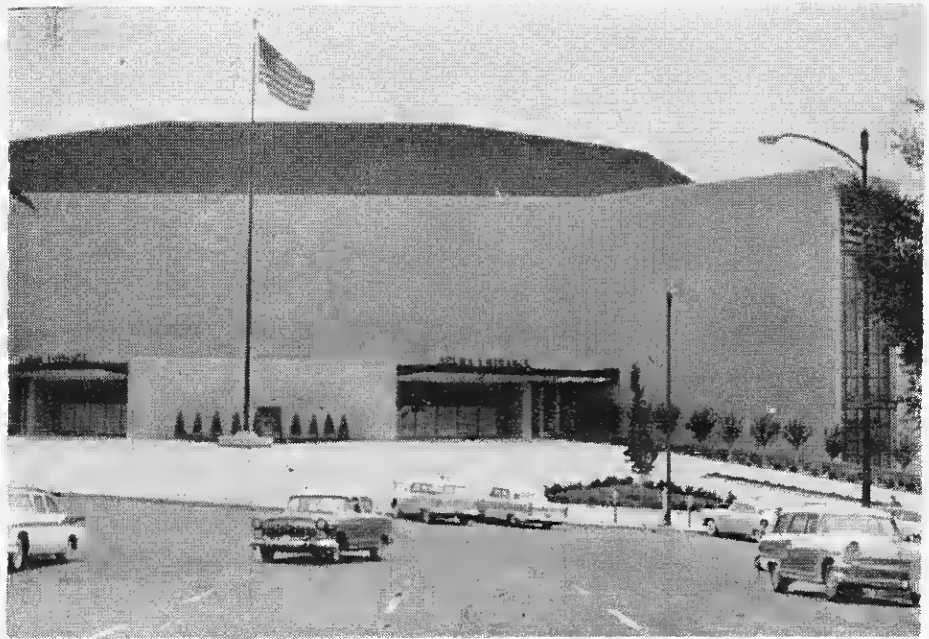
A set of color slides of this significant meeting has been ordered by the Convention office for the use of delegates in making their reports. In those associations or conferences where the elected delegate or alternate was not able to attend, one of the delegates appointed by the Board of Directors will make the report.

The union of two Protestant denominations to form the United Church of Christ is significant for many reasons, mainly because it is the first major step in consolidation of the many divisive Protestant denominations. It was not easily accomplished. Work on it began 14 years ago. It illustrates what can be done in church unity, with patience and perseverance, churchmanly vision and spiritual sensitivity.

Delegates who attended from the Southeast Convention were Supt. and Mrs. Erston M. Butterfield, Dr. Thomas Anderson, the Rev. Archie B. Bedford, Mr. and Mrs. Rufus G. Obrecht, Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Gordon, the Rev. and Mrs. M. B. Porter Jr., the Rev. John D. Dollar, the Rev. Charles Bell, the Rev. Lyn-



Mrs. E. M. Butterfield, Rufus G. Obrecht and Mrs. Obrecht registering. Mr. Obrecht is moderator of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference.



The Omaha Civic Auditorium where the historic 13th biennial meeting of the General Council was held.



Delegates arriving for the first session were happy to find the auditorium air-conditioned, for it was 110 degrees outside. Some 2,000 Congregational Christians attended — 1,586 of whom were voting delegates. All were serious and intent. When, after an unprecedented all-night session the council wearily yet decisively stamped approval upon the proposed union by voting overwhelmingly for the "enabling act", Moderator Albert Buckner Coe exclaimed: "This is the big moment".

And so it was! A great task had been accomplished. A mission had been fulfilled.

wood Hubbard, the Rev. Herbert Long, Mr. Pressley Ingram, and the Rev. Joe A. French (representing Southern Union College). The Rev. Clyde C. Flannery attended as a member of the board

of the Council for Social Action, and Dr. Kendrick Grobel represented the Divinity School of Vanderbilt University where the Congregational Christian Foundation is maintained.

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Volume 4 August, 1956 Number 11

Project Of The Month

"Pass it on to the ends of the earth!
Christ is the answer — Ours! Yours!"

Interpreted by the day and by the hour, this has myriad practical applications. This month we want to suggest a few in India, home of the writer of these lines, Chandran Devanesen. Here in the land of hottest sun and only seasonal rains. Our Marathi and Madurai Missions are actively at work in the strong belief that Christ is the answer. Let's look at just one of their countless ministries.

You and I will occasionally be in very hot sun this summer. We'll whip out the old dark glasses, or buy a new pair, taking it for granted that they are available and carelessly laying them aside when not needed. There is a place where such glasses would be a God-send.

Imagine yourself, if you can, a leper in India. The disease has not progressed very far in you, but you know what it will do, and that there is no hope of anything but gradual and terrible death. Then you hear the incredible good news. Now there is hope of delaying, or even of curing, your leprosy. Go to the clinic under the big banyan tree on the road to Waduth. They will come with treatment that has helped many: injections, tablets, medicines.

You have nothing to lose. It is only two days' walk and they will surely come. Go? Of course you go, even if you must hobble slowly and painfully. And you find it is as they said. The tiny hospital on wheels rolls up. The doctors

The Local Church — Its History And Its Historian

A more significant history of a community is more often found in the records of its churches than in its official annals. And yet, in how many cases the churches of our fellowship have neglected to keep adequate records, even though in many cases the beginnings of the community centered in the church. And often when such records have been written they have been lost later through carelessness, or by fire or flood.

For long years our fellowship has been deeply concerned with plans for social amelioration and the religious needs of our own country and of foreign lands. But the records of the local churches and of the lives and services of men and women who have made these churches what they are today too often have not been preserved for present guidance. Without history all life loses its perspective or depth of meaning. An awareness of the church's past can give instruction and encouragement for today. In times like these, individuals and institutions should lay hands on every available source of strength and understanding.

This Society is dedicated to the task of assisting every church in collecting as much of its historical material as can yet be found, appraising it for present values, bringing the lessons of the past forward for present use, and providing safekeeping of these evidences of the church's life and work for future use.

The Local Church Historian

Thoughts similar to those expressed

above have been running hither and yon through our fellowship for some years, for there has been a noteworthy development of interest in the history of our churches on every level; local church, state conference and national agency. In the local church this growing interest is marked by the growth of the number of classes and groups gathered for historical study, the widening observance of church anniversaries and by the appointment of an historian for the local church with certain specified duties and responsibilities. The office of historian in the local church has now become official. The General Council's annual report for Year Book use provides that the church report the name and address of its church historian. These names are being assembled by state registrars and will be added to the Society's rapidly growing list of local church historians. There is a building up in the office of the Society a far - ranging correspondence with these church historians. From pastors and church historians have come many questions. After consultation and study we have formulated, in brief, answers to some of these questions.

—Frederick L. Fagley, Secretary

(If a church wishes to appoint an historian, write the Congregational Christian Historical Society, 289 Fourth Ave., N. Y. 10, N. Y. and request Volume II, No. 2 of NEWSLETTER. This will give helpful information.)

and nurse get out and set up their tables and medicines. They treat each one with kind personal concern, with medicines, injections, vitamins and words of hope. You learn they come in the name of Christ Jesus, a great and loving teacher whom they worship and serve. You want to know more. Needless to say you return week after week and are helped in both body and spirit. You learn to know and love the director, Akshoy Mohanty, who was a Hindu but in his tireless search for truth and fullest usefulness came finally to Christianity and to this particular ministry to lepers.

Four hundred lepers are now being treated by our Marathi Mission clinic. Dr. Hale Cook writes that one thing

they need very much is dark glasses to protect their diseased eyes. Another is vitamins to give them renewed bodily energy.

Here are small practical ways that you and I may help to make it true that "Christ is the answer! Ours! Yours!"

Send good dark glasses and good multi-vitamin and iron pills to Akshoy Mohanty, Rural Roadside Leper Clinic, The American Marathi Mission, Satara, B. S., India. Write to Mr. Mohanty telling him of your interest, prayers and support.

Or you can send money for the Rural Roadside Leper Clinic through the Convention office, 673 Piedmont Ave., N. E., Atlanta, Ga.

The Superintendent's Page

THE CHURCH, THE WORLD, AND US.

This issue of the Southeast News is filled with glowing reports of our summer activities — evidences of the church at work through camps, conferences, institutes, workshops and fellowship groups.

I have an idea that such activities are among the most important in which we share during the whole church year. Without exception these summer experiences bring new insights, appreciations and skills which lead to growth in the Christian life. Those in attendance come searching for truth, looking for light, and with the spirit of sharing. In such an atmosphere of "togetherness" their searching is rewarded, the light dawns, and through sharing they "grow more unto the stature of Jesus the Christ."

I have watched this happen year after year to young people and adults alike, and give thanks to all who make such summer experiences possible. Especially in these days when the church faces such momentous problems and opportunities, do we need men and women and young people who are willing to face the world squarely and, in the name of Christ, search for wisdom, courage and power to find the right answer to the needs of our times.

Those participating in our summer activities program know that the main business of the church is to change people, organizations, institutions, habits, patterns of living — that both the individual and his world might grow more like unto Christ and His kingdom. No anonymous threats from bigots could keep them from the conference; no closed minds kept them from finding new truth; no blind allegiance to "the old way" kept them from journeying down new roads of Christian adventure.

No matter what else the church may be doing, unless it is changing people—their attitudes, their habits, their world, it is not fulfilling its destiny. Jesus

came bringing a new testament, a better way of life. He came into desperate conflict with the status quo. He was crucified because he preached a gospel of change. Today that gospel is yet to be lived for the destiny of the church remains unfulfilled.

All "religion" is not of necessity "good religion." Let's be sure that the religion by which we guide our words and deeds is that which the Master taught and lived; a religion based upon the truth that all life is dependent upon God, that all men are children of God, that loyalty to Him is paramount — above self, above tradition, above political party. It must recognize that Jesus Christ is the God-given pattern of Him and His message is the door to richness of life for the individual and into the Kingdom of God and the progressive realization of the reign of love in human affairs.

The church, as the earthly representative of that religion, must call people into membership of a universal fellowship transcending all oppositions and differences. It must continually seek to lead all peoples to a personal religious experience which will find expression in a deep concern for the welfare of all, and courageous, uncompromising obedience to the will of God and the rule of love. The church must enter as deeply and widely as possible into the life of mankind in a supreme effort to make the ideals of Jesus the controlling factors in the lives of men and their society. It must provide a fellowship among men and between man and his God that will create a spontaneous urge to express itself in the establishment of the "Beloved Community" throughout the world.

That is OUR task TODAY, and the question of Christ rings strong across the centuries: "Are ye able?" We're giving our answer every day of our lives. Is it a glorious one?

—Erston M. Butterfield

ALABAMA-NORTHWEST FLORIDA WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP RETREAT

The Rev. John R. Lepke of Durhan, South Africa, was guest speaker at the Woman's Retreat of the Alabama- NW Florida Women's Fellowship meeting at Southern Union College in Wadley, Ala., July 17-18.

Mr. Lepke told of many interesting facts on the material and spiritual welfare of the people of South Africa.

Another high-light of the program was the talk by Mrs. F. J. Mehrrens of the Cullman Evangelical and Reformed Church. She explained how the E. & R. Women's Guild is very similar in organization and program to the C. C. Women's Fellowship. The Alabama and Northwest Florida Fellowship extended an invitation to the Alabama Evangelical and Reformed Women's Fellowship to become an integral part of our fellowship in view of the coming union of the two denominations.

Workshops on the six areas of work were highly successful, and as a result the women are looking forward to a great year of progress in these fields. (Reports of the workshops are given separately.)

Mrs. Raymond Berry resigned as vice-president, and was replaced by Mrs. Marrell Rhodes of Tallassee, Ala. The fellowship expressed gratitude for the good work Mrs. Berry has done during the past year, accepted her resignation with regret, and wished her success as the new SEC chairman of Christian Education.

It was voted that the Women's Fellowship should promote SOUTHERN UNION COLLEGE DAY through all churches on the first Sunday in Nov-

ember. Details will be mailed out to all local groups and churches later.

Officers were installed by the Rev. Miss Annie R. Campbell as follows: Mrs. Marrell Rhodes, vice-president; Mrs. G. W. Fine of Hanceville, Evangelism and Spiritual Life; Mrs. Donald Ross of Shawmut, Stewardship; Mrs. Willie Sides of Langdale, Christian Education; Mrs. Herbert Long of East Tallassee, Missionary Education; Mrs. Locke White of Birmingham, Christian Social Action. Mrs. A. D. Harry of Lanett continues to serve as president, with Miss Dora Brackin of Headland as Treasurer, and Mrs. Harry Barr of Phenix City as Secretary.



Langdale women representing S. E. Asia at the banquet

MISSIONARY EDUCATION

In Mrs. Herbert Long's workshop we first discussed the meaning of Missionary Education — which is Our Christian World Mission beyond the local parish. It is the all-inclusive program of missionary endeavor in which all our churches have a part, and through which all Congregational Christians reach out together in Christian love and service to those in need in our own land and around the world.

We discussed our mission study books and were urged to use them through the coming year. Among those discussed were "The Church in Southeast Asia" and the adult guide, "Missions—U. S. A." and the adult guide.

Some of the problems facing us in our own homeland were discussed, and how we might be able to solve them in our



Mrs. Raymond Berry leading Christian Education Workshop

missions work.

Dr. Lepke came in for the last half of our workshop and led such an interesting and enlightening discussion on Christian World Missions that it made us see the needs of other nations and races more clearly and vividly. This set a goal for our Women's Fellowship to work towards in the future, because there are urgent requests for help from Christians on the firing line for Christ: new funds, new work, new assistants new devotion, and new strength. This time of tension, disorder, change, decay, renewal and rebirth is a time for Christians to witness to their faith — that the way of Christ will make a better world.

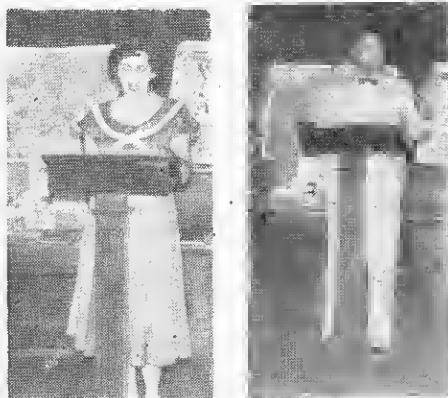
—Reported by Mrs. Albert Baisden

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Raymond Berry, leader, opened the workshop by giving general ideas of the meaning of Christian Education, with emphasis on family life:

- 1) Christian education begins in the home. The first five years of a child's life are spent mainly in the home.
- 2) As a child grows, religious literature should be kept in the home to help in the spiritual life of children. A display was placed in the room and referred to by Mrs. Berry.
- 3) Continue spiritual guidance thru the child's social life, home, school, and church.
- 4) Christian education is a means of bringing the child to understand the meaning of the church and each one's obligation to it.
- 5) Parents should be more interested in what their children are doing in Sunday School.
- 6) Children should have Christian lit-

(Cont. on page 11)



Left: Mrs. A. D. Harry presiding
Right: Rev. John R. Lepke, speaker



Mrs. Frank L. Simmons, leading Christian Social Action Workshop

CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION

To begin our study of social action we had brief talks by Mrs. Frank Simmons, leader, and Dr. Lepke, missionary, on the meaning and scope of the term "social action". It was pointed out that social action involves working in our communities to improve the living conditions of our neighbors and to provide a healthy climate for children to grow. It was emphasized that although social service, such as providing food and clothing for a needy family, is a part of social action, perhaps a more important aspect is trying to prevent social evils rather than cure them after they have occurred. Instead of punishing or trying to reform juvenile delinquents, we would rather keep them from becoming delinquent in the first place.

Mrs. Simmons suggested that the steps toward Christian social action are: 1) Investigation — What are our problems? 2) Education — What are the best steps toward solution? 3) Action—Doing something to correct our problems.

The following problems were touched on briefly: 1) Juvenile delinquency. This was a problem in all the communities in varying degree. Several churches have started sports programs or provided sports equipment for teen-agers. One church has started a weekly community sing, which has proven popular.

2) Political action. We heard a report from one of our women on the work in her community toward improving a very bad political and moral situation. We agreed that, not only as citizens but also as Christians, we have a responsibility to take an active part in getting better government and in correcting poor laws.

3) Lazy, indifferent people. There are

(Cont. on page 11)

EVANGELISM AND SPIRITUAL LIFE

Mrs. Joe French opened her class with some searching questions: Why were we in her class? What were we representing? What is the job of our church? We all agreed we were there to learn, we were not only representing our local Woman's Fellowship but also our local church, the job of our church is to spread the gospel of Christ. She defined Evangelism as being the proclaiming of the gospel of Christ here and abroad.

Ways we can spread the gospel: 1)



Mrs. Joe A. French presiding

Money and gifts to missions: 2) Prayers for those out on the mission field. We should not only spread the gospel through missions, but we should have the spirit of Christ in all relationships at home, at work, and in our daily lives. It is also Evangelism's job to bring young people into the church and encourage them into Christian vocations. We should live radiantly. We should live courageously. We should be concerned about others at all times.

To help spread the gospel of Christ we must enrich our own spiritual life: 1) through prayer, 2) through listening to God by reading his word, 3) family devotions, making ourselves conscious of our Christian responsibility.

Mrs. French suggested a prayer list, and a devotional guide in our Bible reading, such as Upper Room, Daily Devotional Guide, Abundant Living.

In planning a group worship service she said it is important to have a central theme, with everything related: the songs, poem, devotions. Only when we have prayed enough and prepared enough can we lead others.

Recommended worship books: They

That Worship Him, Be Ye Doers, A Method of Small Group Bible Study.

—Reported by Mrs. John Crutcher

... Reports on the Stewardship and Woman's Gift Workshop and the Friendly Service Workshop were not received in time for this issue.

... A very good write-up by Mrs. Dixon Stimpson, chairman of Devotional Life for the Georgia-South Carolina Women's Fellowship, will appear in September.

... Mrs. John C. Fralic, past president of the Alabama Women's Fellowship, has announced the addition of a boy to the Fralic family of two girls.

WADLEY DISTRICT RALLY

The Wadley District Pilgrim Fellowship held a rally on July 29 at the Beulah Church in Wadley, Ala.

The Rev. Raymond Berry of Andalusia Antioch Church preached the sermon, after a welcome from the Beulah PF and the devotional by the Lowell PF.

V. R. Dobson, SEC PF vice-president, led the fellowship hour and gave a report from the National Council meeting in Crete. Hunt PF gave the closing worship.

* * * *

The Junior and Senior PF groups of Andalusia First were entertained July 22 at an ice-cream party. Hosts for the occasion were the Rev. and Mrs. Scott Morris Jr., assisted by Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Harris Jr., and Mrs. O. C. Graves.

About 25 PFers enjoyed several gallons of home-made ice cream, and afterwards had a round of fun singing.



Mrs. Donald Ross leading Stewardship and Woman's Gift Workshop

PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP

The Tenth National Council of the Pilgrim Fellowship met at Doane College, Crete, Nebraska, June 28-July 5. The Council theme was "In Daring Expectation" and the Council hymn was "The New World".

The first session opened Thursday afternoon on Simon Field with President Roland "Sam" Larsen presiding and over 300 PFers present. The officers were introduced and presented a lei by the Hawaiian delegation. East met West, North met South, and we Southerners discovered that everyone doesn't say "you-all".

Each evening after a very good meal served by the Nebraska PFers, we gathered at the outdoor theatre for our vesper services; that is, until the chiggers ran us inside! The young people shared in the leadership of these vesper services along with the co-ordinator, Rev. John Preston of North Dakota.

Rev. T. C. Day of Massachusetts was in charge of our evening programs. The first evening Northern California presented "This Is Your PF". Delegates from all over the country told what had been happening in their PFs. One boy from Connecticut gave us an "ider" of what a real rally is — there were only 3,500 PFers in attendance at this rally! Other programs included a talk by Rev. Sithole from Southern Rho-

president led us in our friendship circle.

After friendship circle, we had Dorm Fellowship groups. In this group we got acquainted with other girls in the dorm, talked over the day's happenings, and had bedtime devotions. This was one of the most important parts of the Council to all of the young people.

Rev. Ed Powers was our Chaplain. Ed, as everyone called him, is from Pleasant Hill, Ohio, and on May 1 became



V. R. Dobson and Ben Cooper en route

the new secretary of young people's work and the chief administrative officer of the National Council of the Pilgrim Fellowship.

Rev. Robert Knowles, secretary of Junior High work, was our Morning Watch leader. Every morning after chapel you could see over 300 young people spread out over the Doane campus, each in silent meditation.

At 10:30 we divided into workshops. I attended the Action workshop. In these workshops we decided on the suggested emphases of PF for 1957-59. After lunch we had Daily Dozin'.

On Friday and Wednesday afternoons we met in regions. We are in region 9 which includes the Southeast Convention, Southern Convention, Convention of the South, and Florida Conference. The purpose of the region is to bring the National PF program down to the local conferences. Other afternoon groups included leadership training, which takes in state presidents; recreation leadership; publications; program planning; rally planning; and officer training. Our special group meetings were similar to our interest groups at



Right: Betty Cunningham

Left: Hawaiian delegates

camp.

The choir was under the direction of Dr. Paul Reynolds. There were as many boys, if not more, than there were girls. If you don't like music, you'd better stay away from a National Council. You can hear someone singing almost all the time. Music has always been one of the highlights of the Council. The Rhythmic Choir with Margaret Palmer Fiske in charge, interpreted the Lord's Prayer, Lonesome Valley, and a round in the closing vesper service. The publications group was in charge of "Done at Doane", a daily newspaper.

The recreation period included swimming, volley ball, softball, dancing and a chance at the washing machine and iron.

In our business meetings we elected officers, (all new officers are boys except for Ann Koch, secretary), accepted the reports of the commissions; pledged over \$700 to Jeanie McCarter for her trip to Colombia, South America as a delegate to the United Latin American Evangelical Youth Consultation; and discussed the merger with the E. & R. Youth Fellowship.

We had a banquet one night, a picnic another night, with entertainment from the Hawaiian and Puerto Rican delegations and Sam Wong of Korea.

On Sunday we attended the First Congregational Church in Crete. The offering was given to Larry Stanton for a work camp in Mexico.

The Monday evening vesper service was a memorial to Dr. Ruth Seabury. The offering taken at the communion service was given to the Ruth Seabury Scholarship fund.

On the last day we had our closing business session, the installation of new officers, and communion. After lunch John Graff, the new president, led the closing friendship circle and the Tenth National Council came to a close. But



Ann Koch, new national PF secretary, leading informal "fun sing"

desia, Bishop Rhodriquez of the Philippines, Dr. Darrell McFarran of Hastings College, a film "Window of Tomorrow", a panel discussion on vocations and a real Western Square Dance. Each evening at 10:15 everyone gathered outside by Frees Hall and the vice-

Young People's Conference

The Alabama - Northwest Florida Conference for young people, held at Southern Union College July 8-14, was a tremendous success. With 51 young people and 10 adult leaders (including the important cooks), the campus really buzzed with activity.

Rev. Thomas Shreve assisted Dean A. R. Van Cleave with the camp business records, in addition to teaching a class. Rev. John Crutcher had charge of the choir in addition to his classes. Other classes were taught by Supt. Butterfield, Rev. Herbert Long, and Millard Fuller.

In the interest groups, Miss Annie Campbell taught "Manners Can Be Fun", Mrs. Donald Ross had handicrafts, and Millard Fuller had charge of the "fun singing". Rev. Collie Seymour conducted Chapel, and Rev. Herbert Long, Vespers.

Miss Harriet Summerville's classes on missions were very popular, and she presented the work in Africa in a very interesting and vivid manner. She also joined in the recreation periods with vim and one evening gave instructions in native African dances to the delight of the young people.

Stunt Night proved a hilarious occasion, and even the ministers had a stunt prepared, written and directed by Rev. John Crutcher. Rumors are that the acting was so realistic some of our ministers are receiving offers from Hollywood!

One of the highlights of the camp was the presentation of a five-year attend-

ance card to Jean Vincent of Garden City by Rev. Thomas Shreve. She was the only camper present who had attended for five consecutive years.

With periods for instruction, inspiration and recreation, the young people had a busy week and all said it was "the best camp ever".



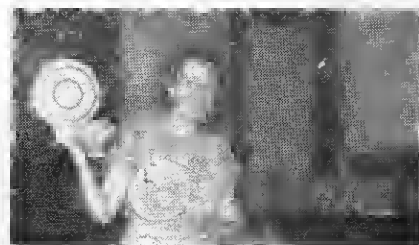
PF Night program: Rev. Annie Campbell presented mission materials; Frank Bell told about Work Camp last year and plans for this year; Albert Van Cleave chaired the discussion and also told of the "state of the PF in the SEC"; V. R. Dobson reported on the Doane national meeting; Millard Fuller added to the Doane report and presented new ideas about work camp; Jean Vincent, PF Fellowship Commission chairman, told about this phase of the PF program.

AN INTANGIBLE EXPERIENCE

The Council — the experience it affords — is indeed "intangible". A person simply feels National Council; and therefore he is at a loss to express it in mere words. But for this report I have words, only.

Pilgrim Fellowship, as seen and experienced at Crete, is big — literally, and also in the deeper sense. At the Council we saw our PF co-workers in Christ: from a tremendous church in Massachusetts, a small parish in North Dakota, a thriving suburban church in California, from Hawaii, Puerto Rico. We saw them, and were glad.

Big? Yes! PFs in more than 40 states plus Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Bigger? Yes! A dedicated local group picking beans for Our Christian World Mission, a work-camp for gathering fruit to send overseas to the thousands of hungry people — oh yes, the common concern



Miss Harriet Summerville illustrated her stories about African work with articles made by the natives

WORSHIP

The Council was a great success, both collectively and individually. It exceeded my expectations in spiritual benefits. We all cooperated and had a good, wholesome time in our classes, recreation periods and free time.

One of the best parts of the Council, to me, was our serious moments together and by ourselves. The chapel and vesper talks were very good. We had excellent leaders.

I was in the Fellowship for Fun group under the leadership of Mr. Johanson. We really accomplished a lot of good at this, our Tenth National Council.

—Johnny Van Cleave

FELLOWSHIP

The most inspiring part, to me, was the fellowship of the group. You could walk up to anyone and begin talking, just as if you had known him for years. There were no strangers at this Council. Everyone enjoyed what the others had to share, whether it was a song, an idea, or a joke.

Another interesting side-light was the different accents from various sections of the United States. It was amusing to listen to the other person talk.

We really enjoyed ourselves on the Fourth of July. We sang our national anthem and several other patriotic songs. Also, we Southerners sang Dixie, with the help of some Northerners who knew the words. Then we all sang Yankee Doodle.

These are the most inspiring things I will remember about the trip, even though I did learn a lot also.

—Ben Cooper

for the welfare of mankind.

Indeed, big numbers, big projects, big thoughts; and, finally, the "intangible" spirit and feeling — that is National Council.

—Millard Fuller



Rev. Herbert Long conducting Vespers on Bald Rock

after seven wonderful days, you go away with the feeling that you never leave a National Council because you are taking home with you new and warm friendships with the people who were the National Council.

—Bettye Cunningham

Church News...

The first Vacation Bible School in 20 years was held at **Crest Hebron Church** the week of June 25th. It was a very successful one, with more than 40 children in attendance. The school was under the direction of Miss Steveta Green and Miss Phoebe Pemberton, SSS workers. We were very fortunate in having these two girls teaching in our school.

On Wednesday night a covered dish supper was held on the church grounds.

The Woman's Fellowship is sending two young people to Waycross Camp the week of Aug. 19-25. Each child who wanted to go was asked to put his name in for the drawing. Two names were drawn — Miss Yvonne Craven and Larry Ellerbee were the lucky ones.

Supt. Erston M. Butterfield delivered the morning message on July 22; his sermon topic was "Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

—Mrs. B. J. Traylor, reporter

* * *

The Rev. and Mrs. Scott Morris Jr. of Andalusia First Church entertained at an informal buffet dinner July 23 at seven o'clock at the Manse on Rankin St. The dinner preceded the quarterly meeting of the Deacons and Deaconesses. Guests were seated at small tables, and included: Mrs. LeRoy Peevy, Mr. and Mrs. Grover Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Y. M. Kelley, Mr. and Mrs. Hilton Blackmon, Mr. and Mrs. B. D. Locklier, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred E. Adams, Mrs. Scott Morris Sr., Jerry Scott Carroll and Jimmy Ray Carroll.

* * *

The **Caddo Friendship Church**, Trinity, Ala., held a most successful Vacation Bible School July 15-20, under the direction of Millard Fuller, SSS worker. Most of the 45 children enrolled had perfect attendance. Refreshments were served daily by various church women. On Friday evening a picnic was held for pupils and parents, followed by games and singing. After presentation of certificates and display of handwork, the Junior Class presented a play, "Building the Walls Around Jerusalem."

Assisting Millard Fuller in teaching the school were Mrs. Estelle Armor, Mrs. Sarah Standridge and Mrs. Eva Shelton.

—Mrs. Eva Shelton, reporter

People And Places...

Supt. Erston M. Butterfield and Mr. Rufus G. Obrecht (layman and Moderator of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference) have been appointed delegates to the Uniting Synod of the Congregational Christian Churches and Evangelical and Reformed Church in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1957.

Millard Fuller is an alternate delegate for Alabama at the Democratic Convention this year — probably one of the youngest (if not the youngest) delegates to be on the floor of the Convention.

Miss Sarah Sams of Atlanta and the Rev. Henry C. Weaver of Robbins, Tenn. will be married Aug. 11 at Center Church in Atlanta with the Rev. Peter Doherty of Columbus, Ga., officiating.

Brantley Indian Creek - Community Church held a very successful Vacation Bible School recently with good attendance — according to Mrs. Olsen Shreve, church clerk.

The Rev. Charles Bell has accepted a

call to Roanoke Lowell Church, to begin his service there Oct. 1.

The Rev. R. Henry Abbott has resigned his pastorate at the Enigma and Vanceville parish.

Dr. Paul R. Reynolds writes that a pulpit exchange has been arranged for Reformation Sunday, Oct. 28, with the Rev. Kenneth Wortham of Nashville preaching at Pleasant Hill and Dr. Reynolds preaching at the E. & R. Church in Nashville.



Above is the new Haleyville Union Grove Congregational Christian Church on Homecoming Day, May 20, 1956. Supt. Erston M. Butterfield was the guest preacher for the morning service, and stayed over for the afternoon sing. The Rev. Earnest Shelton is pastor.



St. John's Evangelical and Reformed Church of Cullman, Ala., dedicated the new Christian Education Building with a special service July 15. The Rev. Erston M. Butterfield spoke at the morning service. Also taking part were the Rev. E. C. Klein of Bealsburg, Pa., and the pastor, the Rev. F. J. Mehrtens.

After the service there was a congregational dinner served by the ladies of the church. The Young People's Class had arranged an interesting display of old photographs, including confirmation pictures of nearly all classes from 1890 to date. Also exhibited was a translation of the first constitution of St. John's Church, together with the original in German. The first signer was John G. Cullman, founder of the city of Cullman.

In the afternoon service the message was brought by the Rev. Harry W. Bredeweg, president of the South Indiana Synod. Also taking part in the service were the Rev. E. C. Klein, the Rev. Collie Seymour, Dr. Guy L. Colbert, Rev. Herman S. Ritter of Birmingham, and the Rev. Erston M. Butterfield. The choir of St. John's Church of Birmingham sang in the service also.

Christian Social . . .

(Cont. from Page 7)

some members of every community who seem hopelessly irresponsible. They are unable to hold regular jobs, care little about the rearing of their children, perhaps drink a great deal.

4) Help for older citizens. One church reported having started an "Over 65" Club.

We had no more time during our afternoon session, but several participants requested a night meeting to continue our discussion. At this meeting our discussion was primarily concerned with the Christian attitude toward race.

1) Christianity clearly proclaims the brotherhood of man, and that means that before God men of all races are equal.

2) Some of the faults that people find with Negroes, such as uncleanness, low morals, and laziness, are associated with poverty and lack of opportunity rather than with skin color.

3) We need a strong voice of moderation in the South. But when we say moderation, we do not mean a do-nothing attitude. We mean a genuine attempt to help Negroes toward first-class citizenship without ignoring the many problems involved.

4) We should face this problem and talk about it calmly instead of avoiding it or getting emotionally upset.

5) We should try to promote understanding and good will between the races and keep the channels of communication open.

—Reported by Mrs. Locke White Jr.

Southern Union College Fall Faculty Appointments

New members of the SUC faculty this fall will be Mrs. Earl J. Bentley, Owen Ellis Frost, and Miss Jo Peacock.

Mrs. Bentley will teach in the field of business education; Mr. Bentley was recently hired as the first full-time director of athletics.

Mr. Frost taught at Southern Union in 1949, immediately after graduating from Auburn. He will teach in the Social Science department with special emphasis upon History and American Government.

Miss Peacock will teach courses in the English department.

Christian Education . . .

(Cont. from Page 6)

erature on their own level of understanding. More time should be allocated to longer Sunday School periods.

7) Adults should show more interest and enthusiasm in church work to set an example for their children.

8) A major point in Christian Education is getting our young people interested in Christian vocations.

9) As Christian adults we should show interest in helping young people in Christian vocations, opening doors to them by giving them an opportunity to participate in conference meetings and summer camps.

The next discussion centered on keeping young people interested in the church:

1) More adults should be stronger in the church to inspire and encourage these young people.

2) Emphasis should be stressed on bringing out hidden talents through the church.

3) Members should visit churches with better facilities to get ideas for their own church program.

The third discussion concerned ways in which Christian education could be carried out in family life:

1) In Christian Family Life we should choose whom we will serve in our home—God, or something else.

2) Family worship—planned for any time when all the family can be together.

3) Grace at meal time.

4) Christian education should be brought from the church back home.

The fourth discussion centered on things families can do together in Christian worship:

1) Attend family night together.

2) Attend Bible exhibits together. (These are being held in some churches)

3) Sit together as a family in church.

4) Build a family fellowship such as family readings of religious novels or poems, etc.

5) Listen to music together as well as sing together.

6) Families need to have fun together. Take time to play games together, listen to radio and TV together, etc.

And remember: respect for human personality begins in the home.

—Mrs. Burson Moore, reporter

Family Camp At Waycross

The annual family camp of the Georgia-South Carolina Conference of Congregational Christian Churches will be held at Laura Walker Camp, eight miles south of Waycross, Aug. 19-25.

The Rev. W. C. Carpenter is dean; the Rev. Edward Knight is assistant dean and business manager. Ben Cooper is the registrar, and the Rev. Dixon Stimpson is dean of men, with Mrs. Bazemore dean of women.

Classes will be taught by the Rev. W. A. Blankenhorn, the Rev. Thomas Shreve, the Rev. Peter Doherty and the Rev. Dixon Stimpson. Misses Audrey Stoughton and Phoebe Pemberton will conduct the Daily Vacation Bible School for children under 12.

Miss Jacklyn Blake will be the missionary speaker and teacher. Miss Blake is from Izmir, Turkey, is 17 years old and a student at Northfield School for Girls in Massachusetts. She has spent most of her life to date in Turkey where her parents are educators under the American Board of Foreign Missions.

The Rev. Douglas Wasson of Southern Union College will have charge of Chapel and Vesper Services, and also the choir.

Interest groups will be varied, with Dramatics by Mrs. Dixon Stimpson, Newspaper by Rev. Dixon Stimpson, Recreation by Rev. Blankenhorn and Rev. Lynwood Hubbard, Handicrafts by Rev. Blankenhorn, "Manners Can Be Fun" by Rev. Annie Campbell, and Beginners' Swimming by Miss Suzanne Warren.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

The Women's Fellowship of the Georgia-South Carolina Conference will hold its annual retreat at the Laura Walker Camp Aug. 23-24. Officers planning the program are Mrs. W. F. Gordon, president; Mrs. H. Y. Sears, vice-president; Mrs. J. T. McAdams, secretary; and Mrs. Zack Sullivan, treasurer.

Important matters up for consideration will be the constitution, and election of chairmen for the six areas of work of the Women's Fellowship. Reviews of the mission study book will be given, the packet materials presented and made available to local groups, and a panel discussion held by the women of the South Georgia District using the Sermon on the Mount.



The spirit is willing; the flesh weak!



Time out for courting?



Industrial Research

PF WORK CAMP

The second Pilgrim Fellowship Work Camp to be held in the Southeast Convention was at Southern Union College July 22 through Aug. 4. There were 15 campers present — 10 from Tennessee and five from Alabama.

The Rev. and Mrs. Raymond Berry were directors of the camp, assisted by Miss Annie Campbell, two cooks, and the Rev. Carl Landes, who gave out the work assignments.

The campers have accomplished a great deal in the two weeks of camp—helping with the alterations in the college dining room and excavating for the new Girl's Dormitory.

Trips, picnics, and outside speakers have added to the inspiration, and perspiration, of work camp.

The assistant cook suffered a fractured ankle, and this caused a reshuffling of the housekeeping work schedule, with volunteers (mainly the versatile Miss Campbell) pressed into service as assistant cook.

A more complete report on the Work Camp, with additional pictures, will appear in the next issue.

Fears We Recommend

To be afraid of all snakes is silly. To be afraid of poisonous snakes is wise. In all the recent attempts to allay the fears of people, get them into a feeling of security, we have come to the point where it is taken for granted that ALL fear is an enemy of mankind and the thing to do is to seek the total abolition of fear. That's a bit out of balance and we respectfully submit that there are fears we ought deliberately to cultivate. Courage is not any lack of acquaintance with fear. Courage is discrimination between fears, knowing what to fear and when. Frankly, we count ourselves both wise and courageous when we are afraid to drive 80 miles an hour with a car full of passengers, no emergency and the road narrow. Driving alone in an emergency on the Maine Turnpike with a heavy car in good mechanical condition we are not afraid to drive 80 miles an hour. But, let's not get too involved here! Permit us to suggest that there are a number of robust, rewarding, essential fears we ought to cultivate:

1. Fear that we will become part of the problem instead of part of the ans-

SHUTTERBUG

The Rev. Miss Annie R. Campbell, Minister of Christian Education for the SEC, has recently become the proud owner of a camera, and we are indebted to her for most of the pictures in this issue.

Mr. Rufus Obrecht furnished the photographs of the General Council.

wer in any group to which we belong.

2. Fear that we will punish an innocent person.

4. Fear that we will leave no vacancy when we move away from town or die.

5. Fear that we will handicap our children with good people by the lives we lead.

6. Fear that we may do so little for others that we are not needed.

And so through a long list of fears we can recommend. We do not recommend fear of unemployment, old age, illness, death, enemies, change, the unknown, being laughed at, or the poor house. Choose your fears carefully, friends. Some will make you; some will break you. Above all, fill your heart with Christian love and good will before you choose!

—North Parish News, Sanford, Maine

EVERY CHURCH CANVASS

Plans are underway for the 1956 *Every Church Canvass*, to be conducted the last two weeks of September.

A list of teams and the schedule of their visits will be mailed to all church clerks and ministers within the next week. Ask them about this year's *Every Church Canvass*. Have a share in it!